

Members

Rep. William Friend, Chairperson
Rep. Jack Lutz
Rep. Richard Dodge
Rep. Dennie Oxley
Rep. Paul Robertson
Rep. Carlene Bottorff
Sen. John Waterman, Vice-Chairperson
Sen. Thomas Weatherwax
Sen. Johnny Nugent
Sen. James Lewis
Sen. Larry Lutz
Sen. Richard Young



WATER RESOURCES STUDY COMMITTEE

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Authority: IC 2-5-25

MEETING MINUTES¹

Meeting Date: September 12, 2006
Meeting Time: 10:00 A.M.
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St., Room 233
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 1

Members Present: Rep. William Friend, Chairperson; Rep. Jack Lutz; Rep. Richard Dodge; Rep. Paul Robertson; Rep. Carlene Bottorff; Sen. John Waterman, Vice-Chairperson; Sen. Thomas Weatherwax; Sen. James Lewis; Sen. Larry Lutz; Sen. Richard Young.

Members Absent: Rep. Dennie Oxley; Sen. Johnny Nugent.

The chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m., and asked the members to introduce themselves. Following the introductions, the chairperson explained the statutory basis for the committee's work as found in IC 2-5-25-5 (Attachment "A"), and called upon the Department of Agriculture to make a report concerning the implementation of Clean Water Indiana.

Andy Miller, Director of the Department of Agriculture, assisted by Tammy Lawson, Soil Conservation Division Director, gave an overview of the Clean Water Indiana program (Attachment "B"), reviewing the history of the program, its current status, and projected

¹ Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

plans. Mr. Miller pointed out that while sixty-six percent of Indiana land is farmland, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) includes only three of the state's forty-one watersheds, which is a far smaller amount than is included in the CREPs of neighboring states. This lack of participation costs the state federal dollars. The Department of Agriculture is working to increase the amount of Indiana land included in the CREP by increasing grants to local governments under the Clean Water Indiana program and by shifting the focus of the Department's field staff. In the future, the Department will be seeking more funding to provide the required state matching funds to increase the amount of federal funding Indiana receives. Ms. Lawson also distributed copies of a booklet that summarizes the work of the Indiana Conservation Partnerships (Attachment "C").

Next, Kyle Hupfer, Director of the Department of Natural Resources, presented a brief overview of the work of the Council of Great Lakes Governors, including their work to develop a Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact. This agreement has been drafted, and governs water usage and quality in the Great Lakes area, including transfers and withdrawals of water. While the governors of the Great Lakes states have signed the agreement, the agreement must be approved by the legislatures of the affected states and then by Congress before being implemented (Attachment "D").

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. Hupfer indicated that the members of the Drought Planning Task Force will be named in the next two to three weeks, with the first meeting of the Task Force likely to be held in one to two months.

The Chairman announced that the next meeting of the Committee will be a tour of the Veolia water treatment facilities in Indianapolis, with a third meeting likely to be scheduled for the end of October. At that meeting, the Chairman will consider legislation proposals from the Department of Agriculture if they have proposals they wish the Committee to review.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

(The two meetings of the Committee announced by the Chairman were subsequently cancelled.)